



## The Monster in the Machine: Magic, Medicine, and the Marvelous in the Time of the Scientific Revolution

By Zakiya Hanafi

Duke University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Monster in the Machine: Magic, Medicine, and the Marvelous in the Time of the Scientific Revolution, Zakiya Hanafi, "The Monster in the Machine" tracks the ways in which human beings were defined in contrast to supernatural and demonic creatures during the time of the Scientific Revolution. Zakiya Hanafi recreates scenes of Italian life and culture from the late sixteenth to the early eighteenth centuries to track how monsters were conceptualised at this particular locale and historical juncture - a period when the sacred was being supplanted by a secular, decidedly nonmagical way of looking at the world. Explaining that the word 'monster' is derived from the Latin for 'omen' or 'warning', Hanafi begins with an exploration of the monster's early identity as a portent or messenger from God. While monsters have always been considered 'whatever we are not', they were gradually thought of more as mechanical devices when new discoveries in science and medicine began to reveal the mechanical nature of the human body itself. In analysing the historical literature of monstrosity, magic, and museum collections, Hanafi uses contemporary theory and philosophy of technology to illuminate the timeless significance of...



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